

## CONGRESSMAN WM. SULZER TO THE FRONT.

Julius F. Taylor, Editor "The Broad Ax," Chicago.

I was greatly pleased to see the letter of Congressman Sulzer in "The Broad Ax," and your editorial commenting thereon. Mr. Sulzer is a coming political star of the first magnitude. He has just introduced into Congress a resolution on the Russian question, which if pressed fearlessly to its logical conclusions, is bound to raise a big political storm not only in our domestic politics, but in international affairs also. This Sulzer resolution is of fact the first step in a revision by Congress of the extraordinary performances and unconstitutional usurpations of power by the Presidential Executive during the late "recess." In the Russian and Japanese affair Roosevelt has established as a precedent that during the recess of Congress all the powers and prerogatives of Congress are abrogated, and the Constitution itself suspended, making the President an unrestrained and absolute autocrat and military dictator. In the greatest international affair in all history, an affair which involved the fate of the world and involved also America's highest material interests and even our liberties, this Mr. Roosevelt proceeded in the absence of Congress to play Emperor and settle the whole business off-hand Emperor-like, making a dive in his spectacular style in a submarine torpedo boat by way of "exercise." With an audacity and disregard of constitutional restraint he proceeded before a gaping world in a manner which even the Kaiser of Germany would not dare to exhibit over the German people. The aggression was flagrant. The Constitution of the United States gives the Federal Senate co-equal jurisdiction with the Presidential executive over all of our foreign relations. This high constitutional prerogative is shared by the House of Representatives of the National Congress. Would Mr. Roosevelt have lost anything in true constitutional observing prestige as the executive head of a democratic republic if he had accordingly called an extra session of the American Senate on that momentous occasion, or if he had called into consultation at Oyster Bay the members of the Senate committee on foreign affairs with members of the committee of foreign affairs of the House? Would the world, effecting diplomatic relations at Portsmouth, have lost anything in dignity by such an observance of the "spirit" of the Constitution by the Executive? Could Witte have made the astounding and humiliating declaration he did on his return to Europe that he could never have humiliated Japan at Portsmouth and forced Russia's terms of peace on her but for the fact that Roosevelt himself was the loyal ally of the Czar, and had supported him (Witte) "at every point?" That was Witte's declaration during the negotiations. That declaration involves American honor. It demands Congressional investigation, and if true, demands Congressional action. For, with Witte's declaration unreluctant we stand in the attitude before the world of having inveigled Japan into a diplomatic "trap" under false pretenses in the interest of Russia.

As to Mr. Roosevelt's moral responsibility for what is going on in Russia to-day, as involved in the Sulzer resolution, the case is clear. But for Roosevelt's premature interference in the mighty name of America after Togo's great naval victory in the straits of Korea, when Japan had the Russian brute by the throat and at her mercy, Russia to-day would be a republic, her brutal Cossacks disbanded and disarmed, with the imperial family and the grand dukes in exile, with the Kaiser and his "hangers-on" to keep them company, Russia a republic, with the reappearance on the map of Europe of the German republic of 1848, side by side with heroic France, all this sacrificed in order to pander to the colossal egotism of Theodore Roosevelt, and safeguard and restore to power the Russian despotism is the bulwark of European dynastic rule. Put that achievement side by side with the murder of the South African republics in order to safeguard the British monarchy, and what claim has Roosevelt on the world's democracy? If the precedent established by Roosevelt in this matter is allowed to stand, farewell to constitutional guarded liberty in America. Under this precedent what power is there to prevent this autocrat during the long recess of Congress from hurling his armies into Mexico, for instance, under some easily trumped-up excuse for such a war, conquering that country, and having the entire military adventure over and the "job" cleaned up before the reassembling of Congress?

The right, in fact the duty of Congress to review in defense of its pre-

rogatives the acts of the Presidential executive during the recess, is plain. It is absolutely necessary. The favorite saying of all autocrats, "when the cat is away the mouse may play," may suit those who believe in autocracy in government. But it has no place in a free representative government regulated by constitutional safeguards of liberty, and resting finally on the sovereign will of a free people.

This great matter has been studiously befogged by the persistent and hypocritical cry of "Peace." A single question or two will expose fully the true character of this cry of "Peace" as a subterfuge with which to hide the true character of the pro-Russian influence which made Roosevelt President, and which dictated the terms of peace at Portsmouth. If Russia had proven victorious in the straits of Korea, sinking the Japanese fleet, isolating Japan, cutting all communication with Oyam, with Togo a prisoner in the hands of the Russians at Vladivostok, and Japan a conquered vassal, another Poland at the feet of the Czar (a result confidently expected by the pro-Russian military and naval cabal at Washington, including the White House), would our pro-Russian President have in such case rushed eagerly forward to safeguard Japan and curb Russia? Would we have heard any cry of "Peace" then? To ask these questions is to answer them. Roosevelt was then, as he is now, under pro-Russian reactionary influences. To these influences he owes his elevation to power. Secretary Hay, the friend of China and Japan, had been practically succeeded by Loomis, who, with the German Ambassador, own the department of state. These are the facts.

Let Mr. Sulzer press his resolution. Let the world learn from the floor of the House of Representatives of the American Congress that the American people are still the American government, and that no man, be he whom he may, can trample down with impunity, "Rough Rider" like, the constitutional safeguards of American liberty. One constitution with one flag, the same in South Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands as in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts. Let the liberty bugle of 1776 and 1860 sound once more.

CHARLES GANO RAYLOR.  
Providence, R. I., December 21st.



WILLIAM L. MARTIN.

Lawyer; ex-member of the Legislature of Ill.; ex-South Town Clerk, and member of the Fellowship Club.

William L. Martin, who occupies one of the best suites of law offices in Chicago, at 155 Washington street, was born in Richmond, Mo., and as he approached manhood he fully became aware of the fact that "no man amounts to anything in this world unless he drinks in an education" and in time he worked his way through Oberlin College. At the end of his Junior year he was two terms ahead of his class, and being unable to return during his senior year of 1892 the faculty permitted him to complete his studies at the University of Chicago, which he did, passing second in the roll of honor, and with flying colors he graduated from Oberlin in '93, and later on he received and completed his legal training at the Chicago College of Law, which is a part of the Lake Forest University.

Mr. Martin possesses great musical ability, having sung for years with the Musical Union of Oberlin College, with the Apollo Club in the World's Fair Chorus, the chorus choir of the University of Chicago—which acquainted him with the world's best oratorios and choruses. He is also a writer of much force and originality.

With credit to himself he has served as record writer in the Criminal court, and was elected as South Town Clerk in 1890, that same year he was also selected as one of the commissioners to the Tennessee Centennial by Mayor George B. Swift.

In 1898 he was elected to the Legislature of Illinois, where he honorably labored in the interest of all the people of his adopted state.

He is vice-president and historian of the Fellowship Club, and enjoys a good practice among both races.

Mr. R. E. Manning, manager of the Indianapolis World, spent a few days in the city last week, stopping at the Keystone Hotel.



GEORGE M. PORTER, PH. G.  
The keen and wide awake manager of The Peoples' Pharmacies 29th and Armour Ave., and 27th and Dearborn Sts.

George M. Porter, Ph.G., who in connection with Dr. M. J. Brown are the controlling spirits in the Peoples' Pharmacies, Twenty-ninth and Armour avenue and Twenty-seventh and Dearborn streets, was born in Columbia, Tenn., and in the course of time he graduated from the Roger Williams university, Nashville, T. nn.

A little over five years ago Mr. Porter came to Chicago, and by working night and day he was able to enter the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy, from which he also graduated with honorable mention, and he has the distinction of being the first and the only Afro-American to graduate from the school of pharmacy referred to.

For several years Mr. Porter practically conducted W. F. Taylor's Drug Store, and early last spring The Peoples' Pharmacy Company succeeded to the business of Mr. Taylor and Mr. Porter became its manager, with Doctor M. J. Brown as its Secretary and the latter part of November under the management of these two energetic young business men, The Peoples' Pharmacy Company, opened up another store, 27th and Dearborn street. Both stores are up to date and are well stocked with a first class line of drugs, toilet articles and in fact everything which can be found in modern drug stores.

The Peoples' Pharmacies are a center of activity in their respective communities. Those who favor the stores with their trade are promptly served by neat, polite and obliging clerks, and Messrs. Porter and Brown have demonstrated the fact that Afro-Americans can successfully conduct drug stores like men of other races.

At either of their stores, customers can leave orders to have their trunks transferred to and from all stations, and as local agents for the United States express Company, they issue money orders and forward packages to all parts of the world.

Mr. Leopold Green of Springfield, Ill., spent the holidays in the city the guest of Mrs. E. M. Blackwell, 328 State St.



F. A. RAWLINS.

The best and the leading undertaker in the Town of Lake.

F. A. Rawlins, who is well and favorably known in all sections of this city, ranks among the modern embalmers, undertakers and funeral directors. For five or six years past he has been successfully established in business at 4834 State street, and it goes without saying that he always succeeds in making lasting friends of those who engage his services to perform the last sad rites for those who were near and dear to them, and in every respect he conducts a first class establishment in his line of business.

Mr. Rawlins is prominently affiliated with many secret societies. He is a member of Oriental Lodge A. F. and A. Masons, member of the Odd Fellows, K. P's. True Reformers, and United Brothers of Friendship. He is also a member of the St. Thomas Church Club and a communicant of St. Thomas. He is a thorough business man, honest, polished in his manners and reflects great credit on the Afro-American race.

## FREDERICK DOUGLASS CENTRE 3032 WABASH AVE.

The Sunday afternoon meeting will present a varied program. Dr. George C. Hall will lead in a discussion of the progress of our race during the year, with Mrs. T. D. Brown and Mr. S. Laing Williams to follow. Prof. N. Clark Smith will have charge of the musical exercises.

Tuesday 2 p. m., regular meeting of the Woman's Club. Subject, Vacation Schools, led by Mrs. L. N. Blackwelder. It is hoped sufficient interest will be aroused to open one of these schools in this locality this summer.

Thursday 8 p. m., the class in fiction will complete the study of Adam Bede.

Friday 8 p. m., The Young People's Lyceum will hold its regular meeting. "D."



DOCTOR W. H. DAVIS.

One of the most successful Chiropractors in this city, a tax payer and a highly esteemed citizen.

Doctor W. H. Davis, the well known Chiropractor, needs no introduction to the great citizenship of Chicago, for by hard work and the able assistance of his estimable wife Mrs. L. A. Davis, he has succeeded in reaching the top of the ladder in his line of business and hundreds of the best people in this city are numbered among his customers.

The big politicians both Democratic and Republican, around the City Hall and at other points would not think of permitting any one else to serve them aside from Doctor Davis.

Recently Doctor Davis moved into his own lovely new home, 3226 Prairie avenue, Phone Douglas 6750, and he is now amply prepared to receive and treat his numerous customers in fine quarters. He still however performs outside work by appointment.



MRS. ANNA WELLS-FITTS.

Active member of the Progressive Circle of the Kings Daughters, church worker and promoter of high class musicals.

Among the active Afro-American business women in this city none surpass nor excels Mrs. Anna Wells-Fitts, the dutiful wife of Mr. B. W. Fitts, the up to date printer, 2803 State street.

Mrs. Fitts is a practical printer herself. She is familiar with the cases, sets and distributes type and can make and lock up the forms. She can also run the job press as fast and as good as the most expert printer and the nice or fine job work turned out by Mr. Fitts passes through her hands first and under her watchful eye, before it is turned over to his customers.

Notwithstanding her exacting duties in connection with her vocation, Mrs. Fitts finds a little time to devote to church work. She is a member of the Progressive Circle of the Kings Daughters and she frequently promotes musicals to assist the churches which she attends. She stands out as a successful business woman in the printing world.

## ST. MARK LITERARY STATE ST. NEAR 47TH ST.

Last Sunday afternoon the subject before the St. Mark Literary was "The Literary Aspects of the Bible." The addresses by Messrs. L. A. H. Caldwell, B. F. Smith, Q. E. Whaley, and A. L. Williams, H. C. Fox, and H. D. Smith, were very good.

Next Sunday will be the Emancipation Day Celebration. Mrs. Ida B. Wells-Barnett will be the principal speaker, others who will appear upon the program will be R. A. Cralley, J. E. French, Ben. C. Winfrey, and many others.



KING JEFFERSON.

The rising Afro-American poet in the west whose contributions in these columns are attracting favorable attention.

## THE NEW YEAR INAUGURAL.

Shrill blows the horn;  
The year is gone;  
A newer one is setting on.  
Wake is the night;  
And so the sight;  
The parted age has taken flight.

Sworn to ensue,  
An epoch new  
Its predecessor bids adieu,  
The white toots;  
The rifle shoots;  
Mankind moves on to fresh pursuits.  
The signals rise;  
The earth replies;  
Up lap their rockets in the skies.  
The heaven woke  
By sudden stroke  
Complacency on all invoke.

The legions loom;  
The cannons boom;  
The old year hurries to his tomb.  
The sentries shout;  
The banners flout;  
The last year train is pulling out.

In haste and din  
And joy maudlin,  
The new year Special limbers in.  
With hope and pride,  
Electrified,  
The world mounts on a twelve months ride.

The churchy hum,  
The rap of drum,  
Fall like afraid beatificum,  
And everywhere,  
The hiber air  
A hazy joyfulness doth bear.

A million throngs  
Acclaim their songs  
Accented on a million tongues,  
And sure and swift  
The ceaseless drift  
Of events seem to light and lift.

The vast extent  
Of contentment  
Swings peaceful as Elysium's tent,  
Both hate and ire  
Suppress their fire;  
The universe seems rising high r.

The push and press  
Of strenuousness,  
So paramount in our progress,  
In recess kneel,  
And mystic weal  
The whole of mankind seems to feel.

Then may we aim  
To live the same  
Our purposes and creeds proclaim,  
And life will seem  
One long sunbeam  
Through which the rays of wisdom stream.

Hope lifts her wings.  
And firmly clings  
To Providence for better things.  
The conscience clear  
Of charge may cheer  
The happy, happy glad New Year.

K. JEFFERSON.

Prof. N. Clark Smith with the same orchestra he had Christmas evening will furnish the same music New Years evening at the First Regiment Armory. Admission 50c.

Dr. and Mrs. C. E. Bentley, of 345 East 41st street, entertained a number of young people with an informal dancing party Wednesday eve in honor of their guest, Miss Candace Parker of Spokane, Wash. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Paul, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Bordie Parrish, Mr. and Mrs. Dent, Dr. A. A. Wesley, Mr. Paul, Mr. Lawrence Jones, Mr. Jas. Alexander, Mr. Ed. Alexander, Mr. W. W. Peebles, Mr. Al. Hendricks, Mr. Wm. Harper, Mr. T. A. Hudson, Mr. A. J. Booker, Mr. Theo. Jones, Mr. F. Allen, Mr. Hunt, Miss Ethel Wyley, Miss Dora Johnson, Miss Cecilia Johnson, Miss Essie Arnold, Miss Fannie Smith, Miss Cora Wilson, Miss Mable Wilson, Miss Edwena McCabe, Miss McSpadden, piano, Mrs. Smiley, caterer.

## Bid for Presents.

In the following quaintly formal letter the parents of Welsh brides sometimes bid their friends attend the wedding and bid them also not to come empty-handed: "Whatever donation you may be pleased to bestow will be thankfully received and cheerfully repaid whenever called for on a similar occasion. The parents of the bride and bridegroom-elect desire that all gifts due to them will be returned to them on the above date and will be thankful for all favors granted."

## Matrimonial Mishap.

She—When I saw old Billyums and his wife at Niagara a couple of years ago she was hilling and cooing with him in a way to make you tired.

He—That was the honeymoon.

"And I saw where the other day in court she had forced him to pay her the best part of his income as alimony."

"That's the harvest moon."—Baltimore American.

## In the Presence of Power.

"This," said the ardent patriot, "is a country where every citizen is entitled to freedom of speech and, so long as he deserves it, the respect of his fellow men."

"Just wait till you get summoned as a juror before some of our minor judges," replied the pessimist. "Maybe you'll change your mind and not brag so much."—Washington Star.

## Venturesome Princess.

The king of Saxony's sister, Princess Matilda, ascended the cupola of St. Peter's, at Rome, and added her name to the list of royal personages who have performed the feat. It was only with difficulty that she was persuaded not to follow her father's example in climbing into the overhanging ball, a height of 408 feet.

## Greatest Diamond Expert.

The credit of being the greatest diamond expert in America is generally awarded to Gen. Mindil, who for ten years has had charge of the jewel room in the appraiser's office, New York. The importer who can bamboozle Gen. Mindil as to the value of a precious stone has not yet come to the front.

## Russians in London.

In investigating the death of a child, London lodging-house inspectors found a room at the east end in which 19 Russians slept. Their beds almost touched. There was a stove in the middle of the room and no ventilation, and water was running down the window panes in streams.

## Repartee.

"Your appalling insurance interests me. For the sake of the experience, I'd give \$100 to be as big a fool as you are for five minutes."

"Yes, and the rest of your life you could boast of having had one lucid interval."—Cleveland Leader.

## None Too Soon.

"Well, Kadley is dead. He was a mighty tough character."

"Yes; killed out west by a premature explosion of dynamite, wasn't he?"

"It was an explosion of dynamite, but I wouldn't call it 'premature.'"  
Philadelphia Ledger.

## Fatal.

"What made Jones give up his diplomatic career?"

"An unfortunate physical ailment. He was attacked with looseness of the jaw and couldn't stop talking at a time when he should have kept his mouth shut."—Detroit Free Press.

## Progress of China.

A nephew of the emperor of China and the chief engineer to the Chinese government are now in England making arrangements for the construction of a great military rifle factory in China.

The drug store of White & Rankin, 36th and State streets, was robbed Tuesday night. The loss is slight.

Mr. A. Barnett, who is attending college in Canada, spent the holidays in Chicago.

Miss Marria Jones, of Troy, Ala., is the guest of her brother at 4827 State street.

## Douglas Club Dancing School.

Yourself and friends are cordially invited to attend the fashionable Douglas Club Dancing School, 351 Ellis ave.

Every Friday evening for the purpose of learning The New Three Step Miss Daisie Hoggatt and Prof. Thomas Russell will see that all of our patrons are properly taught.

A private place where you may meet with your friends to enjoy a social few hours. All respectable people. Full orchestra. Mrs. N. C. Smith, Manager; Prof. N. C. Smith, Musical Director.

## WISDOM COMES BY READING.

Before purchasing books, etc., for the HOLIDAY SEASON, I cordially invite you to visit my store and examine my assortment, consisting of all the NEW and POPULAR COPY-RIGHT BOOKS BY FAMOUS AUTHORS OF THE RACE. Remember the place.

E. H. FAULKNER'S NEWS AND BOOK STORE, 3104 STATE ST., CHICAGO.